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NURSERIES

"It's Different"



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IT'S TIME FOR . . .

ROSES — soil preparation for new plants, reconditioning of old beds, and pruning old Roses; **FRUIT TREES**; and **CINERARIAS AND PRIMROSES**.

Four locale factors distinguish rose-growing in Southern California from methods usually satisfactory in other sections of the States: 1) Here the growing season covers 10 to 11 months, with some growth most years even in January. (Certain climbers such as Belle of Portugal usually bloom December to April). This factor limits the period in which bare root (dormant) briars may be planted and also makes drastic winter pruning unnecessary. 2) In Southern California there is almost never a time when enough rain falls to preclude regular deep watering of roses—12 months of year. 3) Our soils and water are all more or less alkaline, thus requiring the additions of soil sulphur three pounds to 100 square feet once a year for very best results; sulphur also acts as a releasing agent for the various food elements often locked in heavy soils. 4) Fourth, we have the mildew problem based on prevalence of fog in coastal areas. This means frequent use of fungicide as a preventive.

Roses will grow in any open location where strong wind is not constant and where there is deep preparation of an average topsoil, preferably on the heavy side. Hedges and fences enclosing rose beds encourage powdery mildew by retarding free air circulation. In warmer areas some high shade is NOT detrimental but actually beneficial. Strong reflected light from white buildings is not good, and positions with strong morning sun are desirable. Also remember that in cooler foggiest sections the single-flowered Roses and doubles with relatively few petals perform much better than the many-petaled doubles.

The following is one of the best of many recipes for **PREPARING NEW GROUND FOR NEW ROSES**: Spread

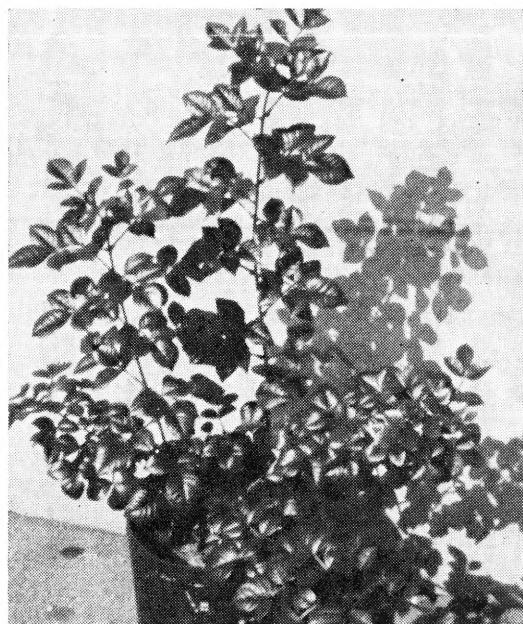
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GESUNDHEIT!

Another Answer

SCHREBERA SWEETENIOIDES (Ed. NOTE: Gesundheit!), if not rare is certainly uncommon. Botanically: Olive family, evergreen shrub of medium height, dark green glaborous leaves unequally pinnate, flowers small white with brown or purple markings in clusters, fragrant.

Horticulturally: A beautiful evergreen plant of great versatility. Schrebera may be grown as a standard tree, and as such it will achieve an ultimate height of about 12 feet, or may be kept by pruning as a compact shrub not to exceed five or six feet in height. The glossy dark green leaves



are of distinctive design which gives the whole plant a most handsome appearance. Flowers, inconspicuous individually, are born in rather generous clusters and are sweetly fragrant as an added dividend.

The current trend in outdoor living design keeps us scratching for plant materials suitable for pot or tub culture to adorn or enhance the cement, brick or various

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IT'S TIME FOR - ROSES!

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three inches of steer manure, one-half inch of humisite, and bonemeal or superphosphate at one pound per bush over the ENTIRE AREA to be planted; spade it all under, mixing thoroughly with soil and allow bed to sit for two months before planting. If this hasn't already been done it's too late now, but you can follow the same procedure WITHOUT THE MANURE and plant immediately. One may use manure at planting if it is well buried below plant roots. NEVER allow fresh manure to come in contact with any bare-root plant. You may also scatter soil sulphur three pounds to 100 square feet at same time and cultivate it into soil. Now dig hole 12 inches deep, 18 inches wide; pack soil in bottom to prevent sinking after planting, make cone in hole and tamp it solid, having top of cone three inches below ground level. Set bareroot plant on cone, spread roots naturally and press gently into soil of cone. Be sure bud union is at ground level or slightly above. Add a handful of humisite, cover roots with soil, tamp firmly, add more soil and water to make mud puddle of basin around plant. Fill basin every day until growth starts! If air is warm and dry at time of planting provide some shade (a leafy branch will do) for duration of drought and heat.

Larger-growing Hybrid Teas (Etoile de Hollande, President Hoover, Texas Centennial and Buccaneer) should be spaced four to five feet apart; average Hybrids, three feet (Grand Duchess Charlotte, J. Otto Thilow, Mrs. E. P. Thom); lower growing varieties two and one-half to three feet (Picture, San Luis Rey, Snowbird). Most Floribundas are satisfactory at two and one-half feet unless grown for hedging when they can be closer. Polyanthas like China Doll should be spaced not farther than 18 inches.

Unless you are a Rose collector, we urge you to PLANT FEWER

VARIETIES AND MORE OF ONE KIND. Three of one variety should be a minimum. Then you have enough of that kind to make a bouquet. Also your rose bed is more effective. And let us assist you in grouping them accordingly to relative height and spread. On each name label in our bins you will find "low," "medium," or "tall." Another suggestion: Try grouping your plants according to color as well as size.

NEWEST ROSES include Sun Valley, a fairly tall yellow; Buccaneer, also yellow, extra tall; Mojave, a multicolor of pinky-orange to apricot, particularly effective planted with Helen Traubel; Lilibet, a medium height Floribunda light salmon pink; and Sunny June, a handsome single yellow Pillar.

On OLD ROSE BUSHES, don't over-prune, never if possible cut below the third or fourth eye on last year's wood. But remove all old leaves (they usually have aphis or fungus spores) and burn them along with all leaves accumulated in the rose bed. Then spray with a lime sulphur solution, covering all parts of bushes and saturating soil in bed. Apply a cup of some good rose food (or 1/3 cup ammonium phosphate) to each bush and water in well. If weather continues dry and windy put on a new mulch such as steer, Georgia peat and humisite in more or less equal parts.

NOW IS THE TIME TO PRUNE AND SPRAY DECIDUOUS FRUIT TREES. Peaches like heavy pruning. Bordeaux is a good spray for all. But don't prune ornamental Peaches until they bloom! **NOW, TOO, ONE PLANTS NEW FRUIT TREES.** Again we recommend the Robin Peach for this area.

And let us call your attention to our choicest selection of **PRIMROSES** (three species) and **CINERARIAS** in pots, in separate colors, \$3.60 a dozen. Cinerarias we have in larger sizes also.

Spring feeding program next month. P.E.C.

Rhyme in Season

What lies ahead?

Of Government we do not speak,
Nor do we mention taxes;
We do not talk of Communists,
Although the subject vexes.

We dare not to discuss finance,
Nor heads of foreign nations;
To dwell on supersonic speed
We do not have the patience.

What lies ahead in nursery terms,
Is fun with plants and flowers.
To make your garden beautiful,
That subject we call ours!

So read The Grapevine month by month,
And if you want to brouse
For people who like gardening
We have an open house.

G.F.H.

HERE TODAY, HERE TOMORROW

Slow Poke . . .

We are pleased to commend to your attention this month one of those plants sought by every home gardener: a plant that will not overgrow its place! Moreover, we offer it in six different varieties. This paragon is *Raphiolepis*, a slow growing, hardy, resilient (heavy soils, salt winds taken in stride) plant from the Orient.

There are *R. umbellata ovata* (white flowers, rounded leaves); *R. indica* (flushed, white flowers, longer, toothed leaves); *R. indica rosea* (pink flowers); *R. indica rubra* (red flowers, very low); *R. indica* Pink Cloud (beautiful double pink flowers over as much as nine months a year); and *R. delacouri* (hybrid between *umbellata* and *indica*, light pink flowers, smaller finer leaves, low).

All have characteristic dark green leathery leaves coloring as they fall to be replaced, with the flower heads of winter becoming clusters of dark blue berries which ornament the bush during the rest of the year, and are of relatively open habit when young, gradually filling in to become compact naturally-rounded shrubs. The slow growing habit indicates buying this shrub in a larger size (five gallons, \$4.50 and \$5) as a boost over retarded youth!

Schrebera . . .

(Continued from front page)

textured patios, terraces, etc. *Schrebera sweetenioides* presents a welcome break from the stereotyped pot plants too frequently employed. Cultured in this fashion of course we do not seek the single stem and umbrella head, but rather many branching stalks from the base producing a full yet somewhat asymmetrical structure with a strong vertical line. Companion planting also adaptable to the open ground or pot culture might include such plants as *Raphiolepis* in variety, *Ternstroemia sarcococca* or Star Jasmine.

Schrebera and all its companions above grow happily in any normal exposure from shade to full sun providing the latter is not unusually punishing. Add to this reasonable tolerance to frost, soil, water, etc., and *Schrebera* emerges as an answer to an often troublesome garden or landscape problem. Five gallon cans, \$4.50. M.E.

Hugh Evans

There are few if any plants which are perpetually gay. Even our reigning human beauties do not wear party dresses all the time. Surely we should be content to greet with joy and applause the various entrants as they make their appearance on the stage at their appointed time arrayed in their especial apparel all with some endearing charm of their own, which after they have bowed out still leave the fragrance of their memories. We regretfully bid them farewell as they take their bow and make way for the next lovely and graceful performer.

We have been speaking of plants which are fugitive so far as their flowers are concerned, but the longevity of certain plants also endears them to us. They have been with us for years and still will stay with us if we treat them justly.

It bears repeating that eminent and trustworthy authorities in England state how, in old English gardens, vigorous clumps of scarlet *Lychnis* and fragrant *Dittany* (coeval with mighty Oaks in the park outside) are still in full health and vigor, and that a girl may still gather flowers from the self-same tuft on which another of her kin had dropped tears as she thought of husband or lover killed with Falkland at Newbury or Rupert at Marston now over three hundred years ago.

If only more gardeners would so employ their talents and use their plants as to bring out the best in them. In a garden in Santa Barbara a few years ago I saw trained to four tall pillars at the entrance to the house fine specimens of *Cocculus laurifolius*, and these plants with their vivid deep green foliage and their arching branches were particularly effective employed in this fashion; for while grown as a shrub it is a useful but rather dull member of society, it does not so best express its character; but trained up high to a support it has a character and distinction all its own.

We who live in the coastal regions should be grateful for our blessings, and while occasionally we think we have had enough fog, our plants emerge refreshed from being shrouded in its grey oblivion.

FOR YOUR INSPECTION & SELECTION:

Choice Camellias flowering now include:

Berenice Boddy — light pink, single,	\$ 7.50
Mary Charlotte — shell white, anemone,	\$12.50
Fred Sander — deep red, informal, picot edge,	\$12.50
Magnoliaflora — shell pink, single,	\$10.50
C. M. Wilson — light pink, extra large peony,	\$10
Aurora Borealis — open white with light red pencilling,	\$ 8.50
Ville de Nantes — dark red and white mottled, frizzled edge,..	\$10
Margaret Hertrich — white, large formal,	\$10.50
	also

Eight named varieties of Camellia Sasanqua (from \$6) and Camellia reticulata Captain Rawes (\$12.50).